

**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 791**

**SENATE BILL NO. 4130**

**By Southerland, Burks, Lowe Finney, Kilby, Williams**

**Substituted for: House Bill No. 4175**

**By Litz, Williams, Roach, Harrison, McDaniel, Maggart, Lynn, Baird,  
Todd, Hardaway, Yokley, Montgomery, Windle, Coleman, Bone,  
DuBois, Hood, McDonald, Favors, Ferguson, Fitzhugh,  
Phillip Johnson, Hawk, Dean**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 1, relative to volunteer firefighters.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 1, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

§ 50-1-309.

(a)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 50-1-307, any employee who is an active volunteer firefighter may be permitted to leave work in order to respond to fire calls during such employee's regular hours of employment without loss of pay, vacation time, sick leave or earned overtime accumulation. Such employee may be permitted to take off the next scheduled work period within twelve (12) hours following such response as a vacation day or sick leave day without loss of pay if the employee assisted in fighting such fire for more than four (4) hours. If the employee is not entitled to a vacation day or sick leave day then such employee may be permitted to take off such work period without pay.

(2) In addition to the provisions of subdivision (1), any employee who is an active volunteer firefighter and who worked for more than four (4) hours the prior day or night as a volunteer firefighter in an emergency may be permitted to take off the next scheduled work period within twelve (12) hours following such emergency as a vacation day or sick leave day without the loss of pay. If the employee is not entitled to a vacation day or sick leave day then such employee may be permitted to take off such work period without pay.

(b) The employer may require the employee to submit a written statement from the chief of the volunteer fire department verifying that

such employee responded to a fire or was on-call and specifying the date, time and duration of such response.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: April 10, 2008**



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**APPROVED this 22nd day of April 2008**



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR